(*b*) What is the action taken on these reports, and what are the preventive measures adopted at present?

(*c*) Which are the departments or officers concerned to protect the people from the spread of epidemics?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The outbreak of epidemics in conservancy areas is reported by the Conservancy Overseers, and in other rural areas by the *Proverthikars*. The reports are sent to the local Sanitary Circle Officer, the Medical Officer, the Tahsildar and the Sanitary Commissioner.

(*b*) On receipt of the report, the necessary preventive and curative measures are taken or caused to be taken by the officers concerned. The preventive measures usually taken are disinfection of houses, hankinisation of wells, supply of potassium permanganate pills, and spread of prophylactic vaccination in cases of cholera, and disinfection of houses and protection by vaccination in cases of small-pox. In both cases, propaganda work about sanitation is also carried on among the public.

(*c*) The Sanitary, Medical and Revenue Departments take joint action in arresting the spread of epidemics.

Committee on the Public Health of some Conservancy Towns.

321. **MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI** (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): Will the Government be pleased to appoint a committee consisting of officials and non-officials to report about the steps to be taken to prevent epidemics in the Conservancy Towns and other country parts in South Travancore, to exercise an efficient control over the health of the people in these places and to supply good drinking water where it is not available?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): The constitution of health committees consisting of official and non-official members for advising the Government on matters connected with public health is already engaging the attention of the Government.

Lectures on Public Health.

322. **MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI** (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): With reference to the statement in the Administration Report for the year 1097, *viz.*, that a Sanitary Officer was deputed to deliver public lectures on matters touching public health, will the Government be pleased to state what was the interval between the issue of this Administration Report and the discontinuance of public lectures by this officer?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): The Administration Report for 1097 was issued 2 months and 6 days after the discontinuance of the work of the Sanitary Officer.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): Is information available as to how long this officer remained on special duty delivering public lectures?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): About a

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